

Nuclear Safety

NUCLEAR SAFETY REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR SPACE
OR MISSILE USE OF RADIOACTIVE SOURCES

AFR 122-16, 14 November 1979, is supplemented as follows:

5. In support of Air Force policy regarding space and missile utilization of radioactive sources, WSMC/CC has established the WSMC Radiation Safety Committee (RADSAFCOM) to review the field processing and launch of all radioactive sources that will be transferred to the WSMC license.

5a(1)(Added). Under supervision of the Base Radiological Protective Officer (USAF Hospital/SGPB), field project managers are charged with ensuring that employees who work with radioactive materials are properly protected and dosimetry administration is properly maintained (VAFBR 161-1, Control of Ionizing Radiation and AFR 160-132).

5a(2)(Added). The Base Radiological Protection Officer (RPO) monitors radiation levels and ensures exposure to handlers is as low as possible and the limits prescribed by 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and other appropriate AF regulations are not exceeded during field processing (VAFBR 161-1 and AFR 160-132).

5f(1)(Added). Every reasonable effort must be made to recover radioactive materials. Recovery will be performed by the range user, WSMC/DO, the Air Force Weapons Laboratory (AFWL) or the Occupational and Environmental Health Laboratory (OEHL), Pacific Missile Test Center (PMTC), and US Navy Search and Salvage personnel. In all cases, the range user is responsible for funding recovery of radioactive materials and shall furnish funding for support as stated in WSMCR 177-1, Direct Cost Reimbursement.

5f(2)(Added). For recovery procedures, in the event that a radioactive payload impacts in other than the planned impact area, the following courses of action will be taken:

(a) For uprange land impact areas, safing and monitoring will be accomplished by the Launch Support Team and Base RPO under the Launch Support Plan and Health/Physics Addendum thereto. According to 4392 AEROSG OPLAN 355-1, initial area monitoring will be accomplished by the Base Disaster Preparedness Support Team with Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) personnel and security will be accomplished by security police personnel. The WSMC

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RADSAFCON and appropriate accident or incident investigating board will be convened. A coordinated, detailed recovery will be developed by the WSMC RADSAFCON with cleanup, recovery, and disposition accomplished by appropriate WSMC and base organizations.

(b) Upon notification by WSMC/DO that a shallow water or downrange land impact has occurred, the WSMC RADSAFCON shall convene to determine if recovery is required. If required, the WSMC RADSAFCON will request that WSMC/DO implement OD 5134, Search and Salvage, for offshore uprange impacts and request SD/SGX (Bioenvironmental Engineering Office) or OEHL assistance, if necessary. WSMC/DO, in cooperation with the PMTC under terms of CD 5134, shall identify and arrange for the required search and salvage.

(3) (Added). Nonrecoverable deep water impacts must be verified by range impact locating sensors or appropriate surveillance resources prior to submittal of disposition papers to the WSMC RADSAFCON. Copies of the disposition papers will be submitted to the appropriate WSMC/DO Program Support Manager (PSM) and Base RSC. The WSMC RADSAFCON (in coordination with the range user) will make the final decision for WSMC on recovery attempts for inadvertent deep water impacts.

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